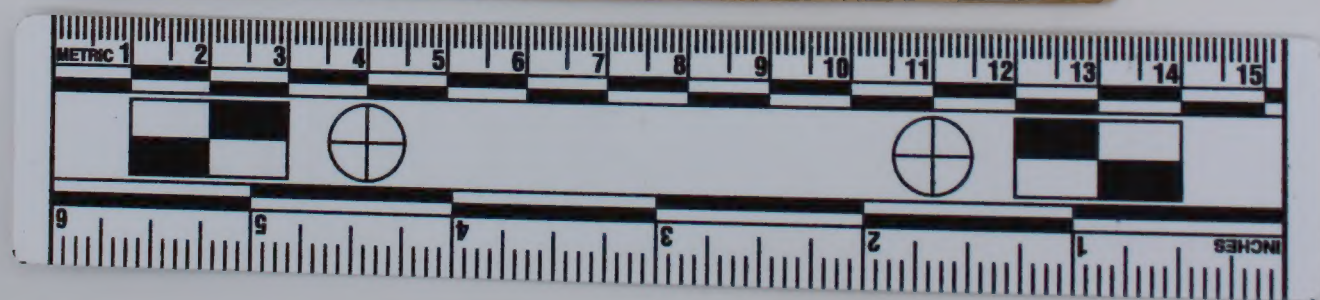




Miss Alice Grandy,  
Arcadia,  
California.





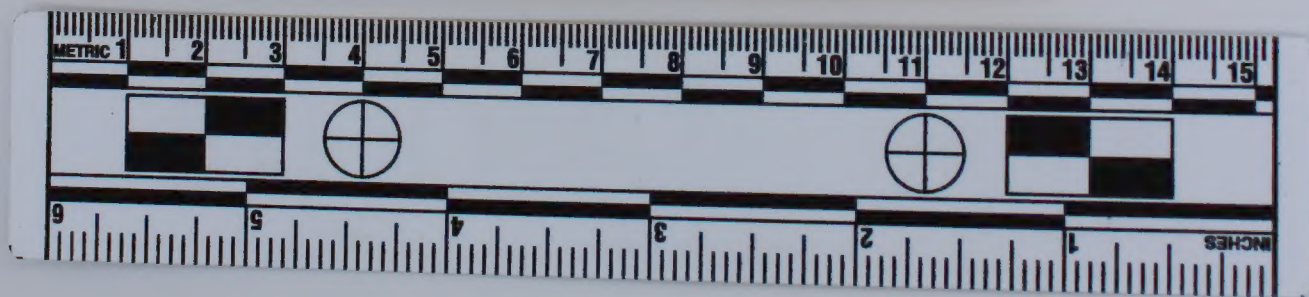


UNITED STATES ARMY  
SCHOOL OF AERIAL PHOTOGRAPHY  
AT CORNELL UNIVERSITY  
ITHACA, N.Y.

December 20, 1918.

Mrs Grandy;

Dear Friend: "Ma" Grandy  
gets a letter this time too.  
Your letter came in today  
and adds much to the  
great pleasure I have derived  
from the good fortune that  
befell me when I first  
saw Alice in the P.O. at  
Arcadia. Some people  
would not understand  
but I have lived long enough  
to know that happiness does  
not come from keeping money  
or excessive property. The  
greatest of happiness is  
perhaps that that spring  
to a parents heart when the



just now you and Mr Grady  
are able to do what is needed  
and I hope will be able to continue  
to do so. But I feel that if any  
thing should happen that interfered  
with your discharge of this wonder-  
ful duty, I should wish to stand  
ready to do for them what I could.

Now you know that in this world  
little or nothing is proffered or done  
except for anticipated reward.

This is true in this case as in  
any other except that the reward  
is an intangible thing - a sense  
of being useful and of being needed  
by somebody. Now if these little  
sombodies are such characters  
as your little girls the reward  
becomes greater in proportion.





The little boy or girl daily unfolds and develops as a flower before their eyes. The greatest wound is caused by the failure of the child to live up to the parents hope.

Having no children but loving them more than any thing else in the world it is only the most logical thing in the world that when I have found, not one, but three all of whom I like better than any other children I ever knew, I should think of them a great deal and love them deeply.

Mrs Grandy, I have already hinted in my letters especially to Helen that I felt a personal interest in seeing them grow to womanhood with the advantages of school and the protection they need.



I do not want to spoil them  
and do not think that I will.  
When they know that it is the fact  
that they do not act conceited  
and are unselfish — in other words  
are entirely unspoiled — that it is  
because of these things I love them I  
do not think they will throw these  
qualities away too cheaply.

Since knowing them I have been  
a much more contented and  
happier man. Their letters keep  
me in touch with youth and help  
keep me from growing old. No  
one wishes to grow old and they are  
my antidote.

Wess —

Just back again so will  
finish up my letters to Acadia.





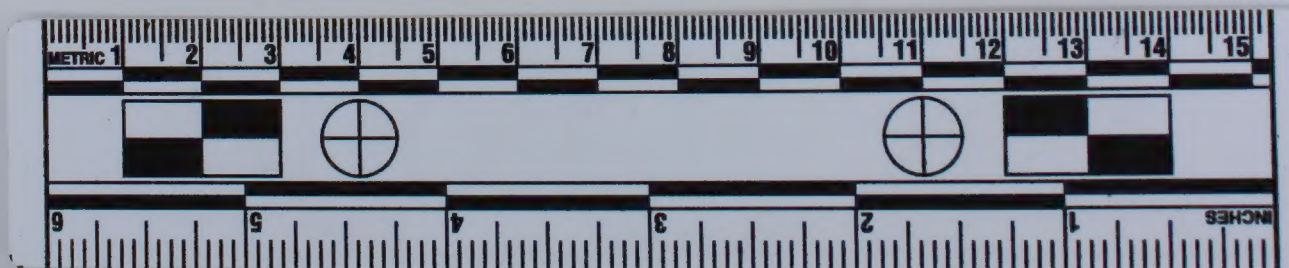
UNITED STATES ARMY  
SCHOOL OF AERIAL PHOTOGRAPHY  
AT CORNELL UNIVERSITY  
ITHACA, N.Y.

December 18, 1918.

Miss Alice Grandy

Dear Alice:— So Alice  
has scratched up her nose.  
She must be more careful  
next time. And Gae, as  
usual, got the letters first.  
It pays to be on the job  
doesn't it?

As I told Helen it is  
not that it is nice of me  
to write to you "Kids" so  
often. It is just for the  
great pleasure I get from  
your letters and the thought  
that my little "nieces" are  
pleased to receive letters.  
It is not every body that  
can have such correspondents  
as you children are.

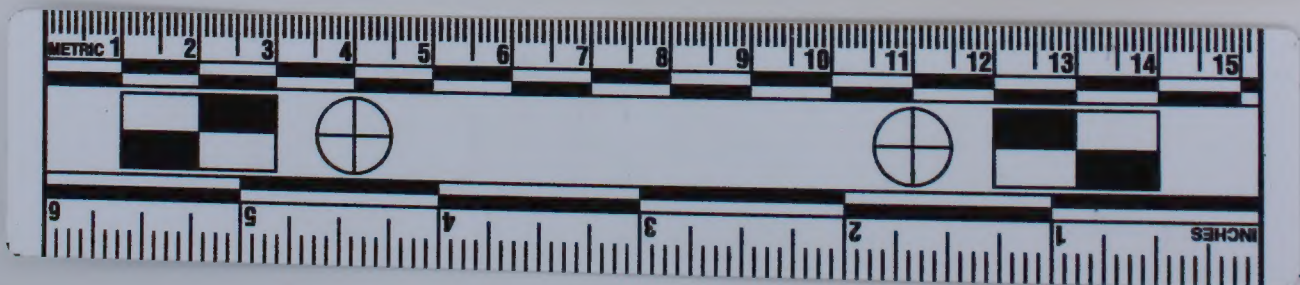


for. Do you know what it is?  
It is an excuse.

I am not getting along any  
too well with the girl in Pasadena.  
We have not quarreled but I don't  
think she cares much about me  
and that "caring" part is the  
foundation of everything.

There is to be a big dance  
here tonight - a sort of fair well  
to the photographers. I will go but  
can hardly hope for a good time  
because I do not dance and  
can't talk to a pretty girl if  
I do not. I don't know any  
girls here at all, anyway.  
From the faces on most of them I  
don't mind that much though.

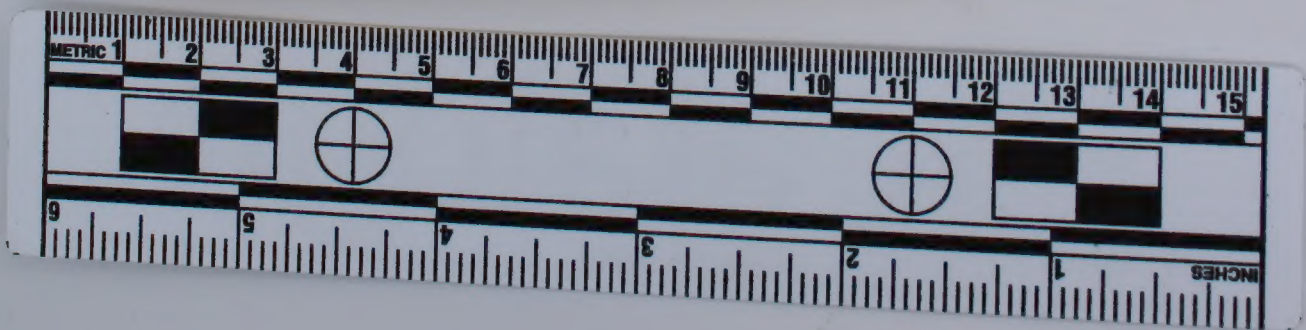
Your loving uncle  
Fred.



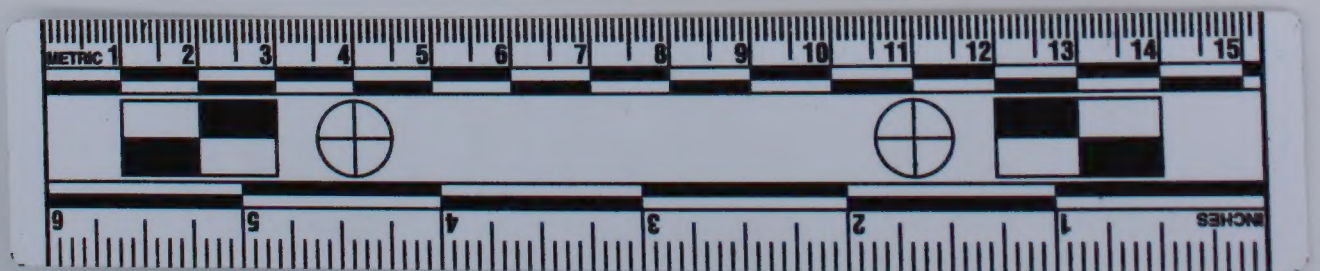


If it were only possible  
it would be with great  
pleasure that I would  
bring you a box of real  
snow. It would be wonder-  
ful to you perhaps but  
to us here it is rather  
a nuisance.

Don't you know of any  
christmas present good  
enough for me? I do.  
And it don't cost a cent  
and can't be bought for  
all the money in the world.  
My last letter from you  
was clear full of it too.  
With it comes happiness.  
With out it life is nothing.  
Little brown eyed sweetheart  
— the answer to his riddle  
is the same as to why I  
came to your house when  
I found the sort of people  
who lived there.  
You did not tell me  
what you got the mistle toe



I'm very sorry you were hurt  
so badly. Are you nearly over  
it now? F.





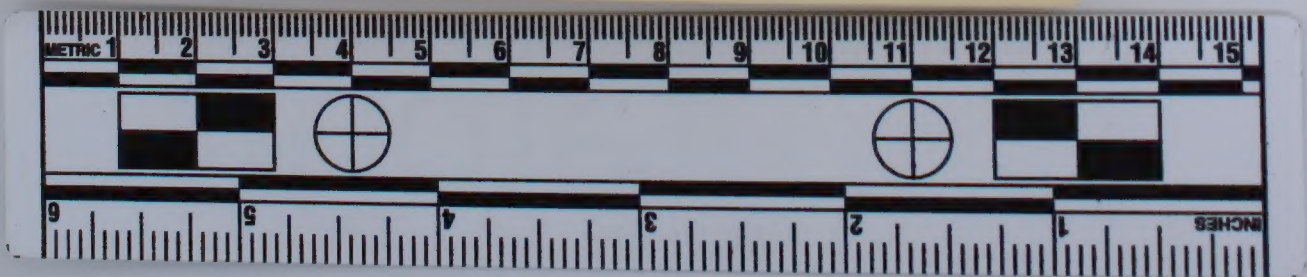
"Ma" Sandy - 2.

UNITED STATES ARMY  
SCHOOL OF AERIAL PHOTOGRAPHY  
AT CORNELL UNIVERSITY  
ITHACA, N.Y.

Yesterday was a great day here. About 40 men were posted for discharge. My name was among them and I turned in all of my supplies and equipment except the clothing I had on and a few keepsakes. By 4 P.M. all the papers were made out but the final ones which were to come through at 9:30 today. Then a telegram came ordering all work of discharge discontinued.

So here we are here still in the army perhaps for days perhaps for months. Time only can tell.

The men are impatient with good cause for it now



based upon careful mathematical  
calculation. He is certain that  
the idea is a sound one.

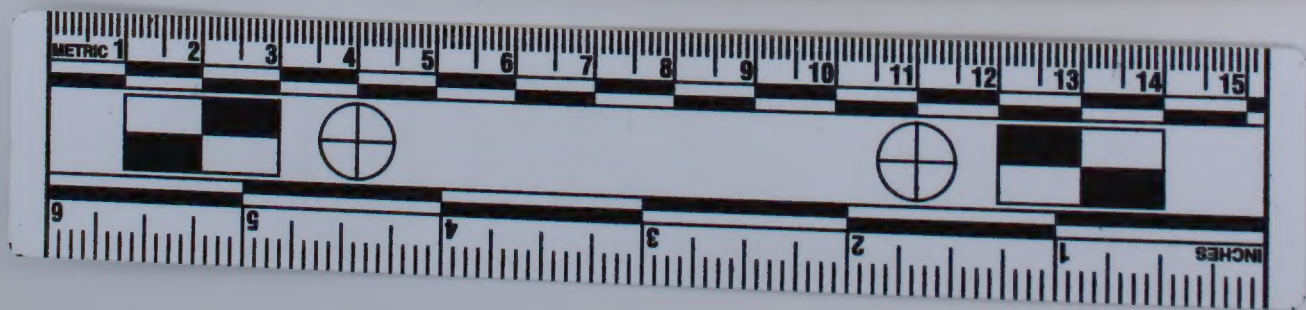
So here goes to Washington to  
try to get Govt support. If they don't  
see it my way I'll do it on my  
own hook and make money out of  
it. They can do as they please  
about it.

Thank you for the papers and  
your interesting letter.

Tell the children that I received  
the little diary and like it  
very much.

I bought an officers suit last  
night. I can use it even if I  
do not get to be an officer.

Your friend  
"Uncle Fred"





seems quite probable that many men will be retained to photograph the mail routes. Now these men enlisted for the period of the present emergency which can not honestly be interpreted to mean that they can be forced to work for thirty dollars a month at work that is totally apart from the work of winning the war and only developed since the real close of the war. Nevertheless I believe it is their purpose to try to do that very thing.

I care less than the other boys because I know more of that work and am soon to be commissioned. Also I wish to work out my device for flying a straight course. Today I went to Prof Murdock at the University and received his opinion.

